

A new *Ceroplastodes* (Hom. : Coccoidea) from Kenya.

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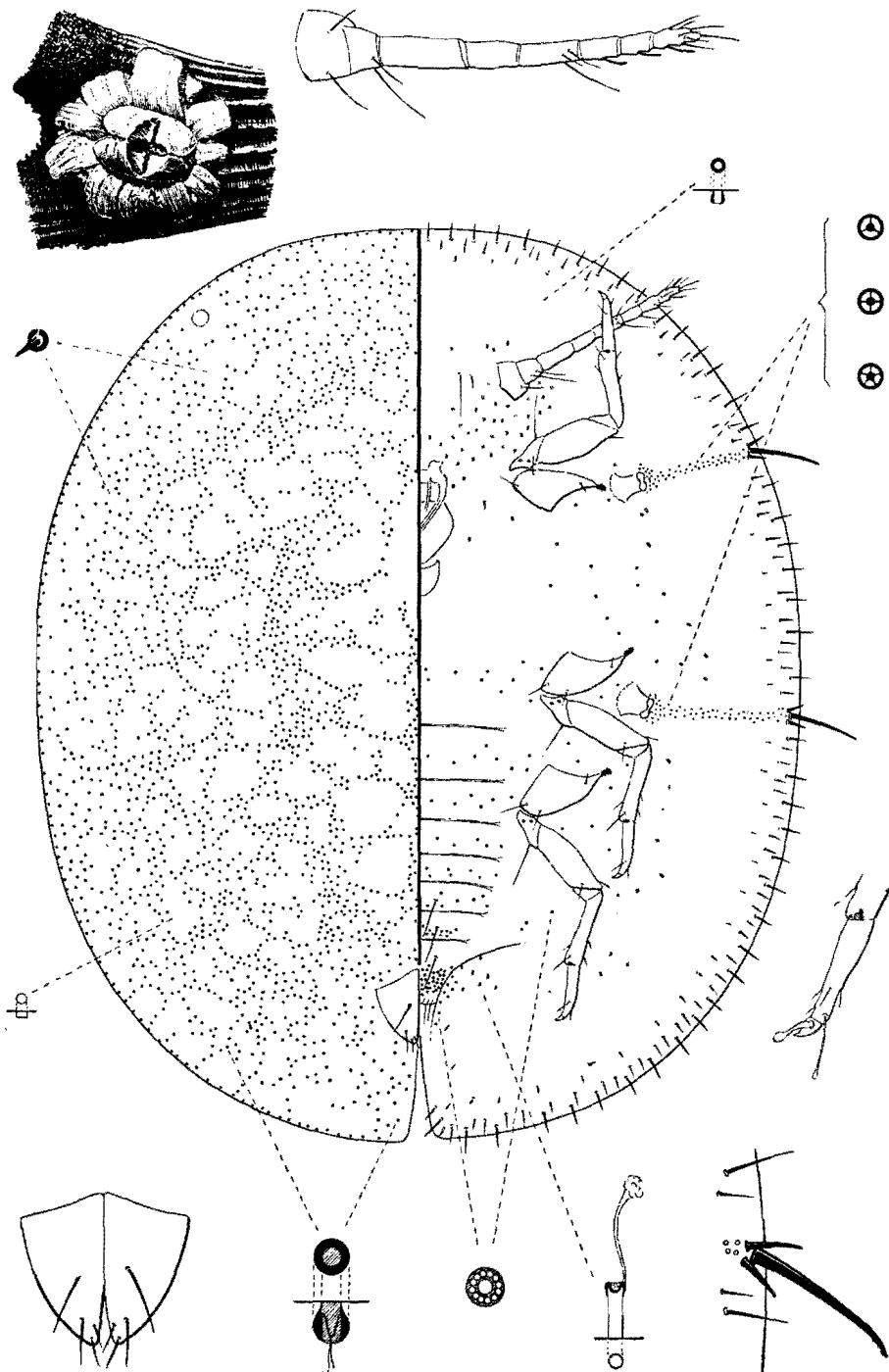
Ceroplastodes psychotriae sp.n. (fig. 1).

Test of the adult female oval, strongly convex at maturity, provided with marginal and dorsal waxen appendages. The marginal series is apparently formed by six lateral, two frontal and two caudal appendages, broad, stout and curved downwards; dorsal appendages four, smaller and curved upwards. Wax glassy, white or dirty white. Length 3.5 mm. to 5 mm.

Dermis at full maturity moderately chitinised. The following description of the body structures was made on mounted specimens in which the process of chitinisation had not set in. Antennae of eight segments. Legs well developed with an articulatory sclerosis between tibia and tarsus; unguial digituli both stoutly knobbed. Margin of the body provided with setae of two different sizes, all spiniform, robust. Stigmatic spines three, of which the median one is about three times as long as the laterals. Anal plates slightly longer than their combined width; posterior lateral margin rounded; discal seta long and robust; apical setae three, also robust but much shorter. Dorsal dermis with very abundant subsphaerical strongly chitinised glands having an obconic duct, and often associated with a minute tubular gland. They form an irregular and incomplete reticulation, this being especially marked on the median and submedian areas. Dorsal setae very small and widely distributed. Marginal tubercles normally absent, but in some specimens one or — exceptionally — two are present. Interantennal setae two, one of which is very long. A couple of long robust setae is inserted on the median area of the three segments anterior to the genital opening. Multilocular disc pores numerous about the genital opening and extending in segmental rows on the median area to the metathorax; a few are scattered on the submedian area. Glands associated with the stigmatic openings normally quinquelocular, but some with four or even three loculi occur. Tubular ducts mostly crowded in the area between the antennae and mouth parts; a few others scattered on the submarginal area. Other small glands having the duct moderately chitinised are numerous all over the venter.

KENYA: Nairobi, 16.i.1954, 11 mounted ♀ ♀ collected on branches of *Psychotria nairobensis* Brem. (G. De Lotto).

Fig. 1 *Ceroplastodes psychotriae* sp.n.



The holotype which will be deposited in the British Museum (Natural History), London, is a young adult female in which the chitinisation had not yet set in. One paratype will be sent to the U.S. National Collection of Coccidae, Washington, U.S.A. The remainder are in the collection of the Department of Agriculture, Nairobi, Kenya.

This species appears close to *C. gowdeyi* Newstead described in 1911 from specimens collected on *Ficus* sp. in Uganda, from which it is separable by the absence of the four pairs of ventral circular glands present in *gowdeyi* and by the shape and size of the stigmatic spines which in *gowdeyi* are all of the same length and are inserted in a very deep, narrow cleft. Furthermore in *gowdeyi* the wax covering of the adult female is built up by large polygonal plates, which is not the case in *psychotriae*.